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COMMENT OF THE DAY

Japan & The China Trade

JUDGING from press reports, the recent signing of a barter trade agreement between Communist China and Japanese interests has been given exaggerated importance both in Europe and Japan. Although the amount mentioned, £60 millions on each side, is large, it is also illusory. The Japanese Government has given warning that it will not relax its enforcement of the United Nations resolution on strategic exports to China, and it appears that 33 per cent of the commodities mentioned in the agreement are on the embargo list. Previous experience of this kind of agreement has not been good. For example, a similar agreement made in June of 1952 led to almost nothing. Instead of the promised £30 millions' worth of trade each way the actual results for the year ended last June were no more than £900,000 worth of exports from Japan and £780,000 worth of imports. When the new pact was signed in Peking the Chinese Deputy Prime Minister said China was willing to conclude a non-aggression pact with Japan if she would break with the Chinese Nationalists and would free herself from "subordination to the United States"—a clear pointer to the fact that the talk of fostering trade between the two countries is principally influenced by political motives.

IT is of course natural that Japan should look hopefully to a revival of trade with China. Japan's Western competitors look equally hopefully on this as a means of relieving Japan's pressure to export to their markets. The opening of the China market to Japan would be a healthy thing for the world. But Japanese hopes have to be tempered in the light of current political and economic conditions. Japanese opinion it is true is strongly for more trade with China, but even if the embargo list is much relaxed (and there have been a small number of concessions recently) the possible relief to Japan in her serious economic situation does not appear to be great. Japan's gap between imports and exports may this year reach \$1,100 millions; it is not likely to be much reduced by her China trade—a fact of much consequence to the West.

No Further Compromise Over Canal Zone Issue

CHURCHILL'S REPORTED STATEMENT TO MR DULLES

Washington, Dec. 10.

The British Prime Minister, Sir Winston Churchill, told President Eisenhower and other American officials in Bermuda that his Conservative government would fall if it attempted a further compromise with Egypt over the evacuation of British troops from the Suez Canal Zone.

This was disclosed today by informants who said the information was given to the Egyptian Ambassador, Ahmed Hussein, here by the Secretary of State, Mr John Foster Dulles, during a half-hour meeting between the two at the State Department this afternoon.

After talking with Mr Dulles, Mr Hussein had a half-hour meeting with the Assistant Secretary of State for Middle East affairs, Mr Henry Byroade, who also attended the Bermuda meeting and discussed the Suez matter with the British Foreign Secretary, Mr Anthony Eden.

Mr Dulles, according to diplomatic authorities, told Mr Hussein that the British had thus rejected a compromise American plan for settling the Suez dispute by middle of the 10th action.

The Egyptian Ambassador said, however, that his Government was "suspicious" of Sir Winston's reasons for not accepting the American compromise.

Mr Hussein has been recalled to Cairo for consultations and will leave some time between December 15 and 20. Aides said he expected to present his information to the government of President Mohammed Naguib and then return to Washington early in January.

The Egyptian Ambassador to London likewise has been summoned home for consultations.

SLIGHT DIFFERENCE

American authorities believe the difference between the British and Egyptians is so slight that it can easily be resolved. The British want to have the right to go back into the Suez, along with their allies, if there is any attack on the Arab States or Turkey, Iran or Greece.

The Egyptians want to grant this right only in the event of a direct attack on the Arab States—excluding Turkey, Iran and Greece.

The British went so far as to agree that they would consult with "Egypt and the other Arab nations" about reoccupation.

POSITION WEAKENED

American officials are said to believe that the British position in the Middle East is so weak as a result of the elections in the Sudan—where the voters elected to join with Egypt—that Sir Winston's prophecy of a fall on the Suez question is not overdrawn.

The prediction in diplomatic quarters here was that Egypt might adopt a policy of non-co-operation with the British in Suez, as a result of Sir Winston's refusal to consider the American plan, and withdraw the thousands of Egyptian nationality who are in the zone.

The fear was expressed in very well-informed quarters here that Egypt and the other Arab States may decide to adopt a policy of "neutralism" in the cold war as a result of the inability to reach agreement on Suez. The Arab League meets in Cairo on January 15 and it is expected the Premiers of all those countries will be present to adopt a general policy on relations with the West.—United Press.

IN 15 YEARS' TIME

Cairo, Dec. 10. Egypt is making preparations to take complete charge of the Suez Canal in 15 years from now when the Canal Company's concession expires, according to a statement by Egyptian official, Mohamed Abdin, in an article published today in the Cairo newspaper, Al Aswan.

The writer, a Deputy Under-Secretary of the Ministry of Communications, with the Suez Canal Company, is due to leave for Paris at the end of the week. In the French capital, he will take up several important questions with the directors of the Canal Company, which has its headquarters in Paris.

The company is Egyptian, but Britain holds half of the capital shares and the government board is composed of 16 French, 10 British, four Egyptians, one American and one Netherlands director.

The concession is due to end in 1968.—France-Press.

Britain Puts In Protest

London, Dec. 10. Britain announced today that she has lodged a strong protest with Egypt over the "considerable increase" in incidents against British troops in the disputed Suez Canal Zone.

The protest came to light in the House of Commons in a written reply by the Foreign Under-Secretary, Mr Arthur Doods-Parker.

A Foreign Office spokesman said later he believed the protest was made in Cairo about 10 days ago.—United Press.

START THE RETURN TRIP

Churchill & Laniel Leave Bermuda

Hamilton, Bermuda, Dec. 10.

Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Premier Joseph Laniel of France left by plane tonight for London in the Stratocruiser Campus which brought Sir Winston here for the Big Three conference.

M. Laniel, apparently recovered from his heavy cold, boarded the plane first after cheerfully waving his hat to a crowd of 2,000 which had gathered despite wind, rain and the late hour.

A number of Bermuda dignitaries were present but there were no ceremonies. Because it was after retreat, when no British flags are allowed on the streets of Bermuda, the only "military representative" was the mascot of the Welsh Fusiliers—Billy the goat—which ambled up to the ramp.

Sir Winston, smoking a cigar and accompanied by the Governor, told the Bermudians:

"Thank you all very much for your kindness. We have enjoyed our visit to your beautiful islands. We trust our work will not, in the end, go unrewarded. Good luck to Bermuda. Keep a cheer for the British garrison when it returns."

FAMILIAR SIGN

As he entered the aircraft, the Prime Minister turned around, waved his hat in the air and made his familiar V. for Victory sign. The plane took off at 6.10 p.m. for the flight to England, which takes approximately 11½ hours.

This afternoon, Sir Winston and a party of four men visited one of Bermuda's beaches. The Prime Minister, apparently feeling extremely agile, scrambled down a fairly steep, sandy slope to the water's edge, where he sat a few minutes in a deck chair. When he clambered back up the slope, he turned to a group of about 20 American tourists and said, "Well, there you are," apparently as if to show them his age was no deterrent to his enjoyment of life.—United Press.

Dies, Aged 125

Mombasa, Dec. 10.

Banef Haj Hamdan, an Arab trader who claimed to have lived for 125 years, died here today.

Hamdan still had his full set of teeth and all his mental faculties up to his death. His only physical defect was his failing eyesight.

He had been married four times and is survived by his 80-year-old wife, and by eight children, the eldest 65 and the youngest a 10-year-old daughter.

Hamdan was born at Oman, in Arabia, and at the age of 27 he joined the Arabian Army in Somaliland. Later he became a trader and came to Mombasa in 1947. He made his first return trip to the land of his birth in 1943.—United Press.

Gouzenko Willing To Talk Conditions Revealed

Ottawa, Dec. 10. Justice Minister Stuart Garson said today that Igor Gouzenko had notified him by letter that he would be willing to talk with United States Senate spy investigators in a Canadian-controlled meeting.

Mr. Garson announced Gouzenko's decision in a short statement to the House of Commons. He told the House that Senator William E. Jenner, Chairman of the Senate Sub-Committee on Internal Security, and the Sub-Committee's counsel, Mr. Robert T. Morris, had been named United States representatives to meet with Mr. Gouzenko.

He outlined for the House of Commons the terms of the meeting set by Canada in a note to the United States Government last month.

The meeting will be held under Canadian auspices and presided over by a Canadian official who will rule on procedures.

SECRET MEETING

The meeting will be conducted secretly.

No part of the evidence or information supplied by the former Russian cipher clerk will be made public without the approval of the Canadian Government.

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WILLING TO DEBATE

Washington, Dec. 10. Senator Joseph McCarthy said today he would be willing to debate the subject of Communism in the United States with the former President, Mr. Harry S. Truman.

They were invited to engage in the debate by the Harvard University Law School forum, a student organization at Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Mr. Horschel Shanks, a 23-year-old law student, who is chairman of the forum, said he had sent the invitations to Senator McCarthy and Mr. Truman on December 2, but had not yet heard from either.

The unions appear to be standing firm in the fight for higher wages. All three unions—the National Union of Railways, the Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen, and the Transport Salaried Staffs Association—have condemned the meagreness of the Tribunal award.

The Royal couple are due here on December 17 and the immediate weather outlook is favourable but it could alter very quickly. This is the hurricane season and meteorologists at Nandi and Fiji are anxiously watching the weather trends in the storm-making areas south of the Equator.

The unspoken fear is that revision of the Fiji programme for the Royal tour may be necessary if a hurricane should develop and the storm centre moves towards the Fiji Islands.

About 100 have now been finished and are available for use.

A senior official here tonight denied reports that the Pact had now agreed to adopt a new shipbuilding and engineering workers.

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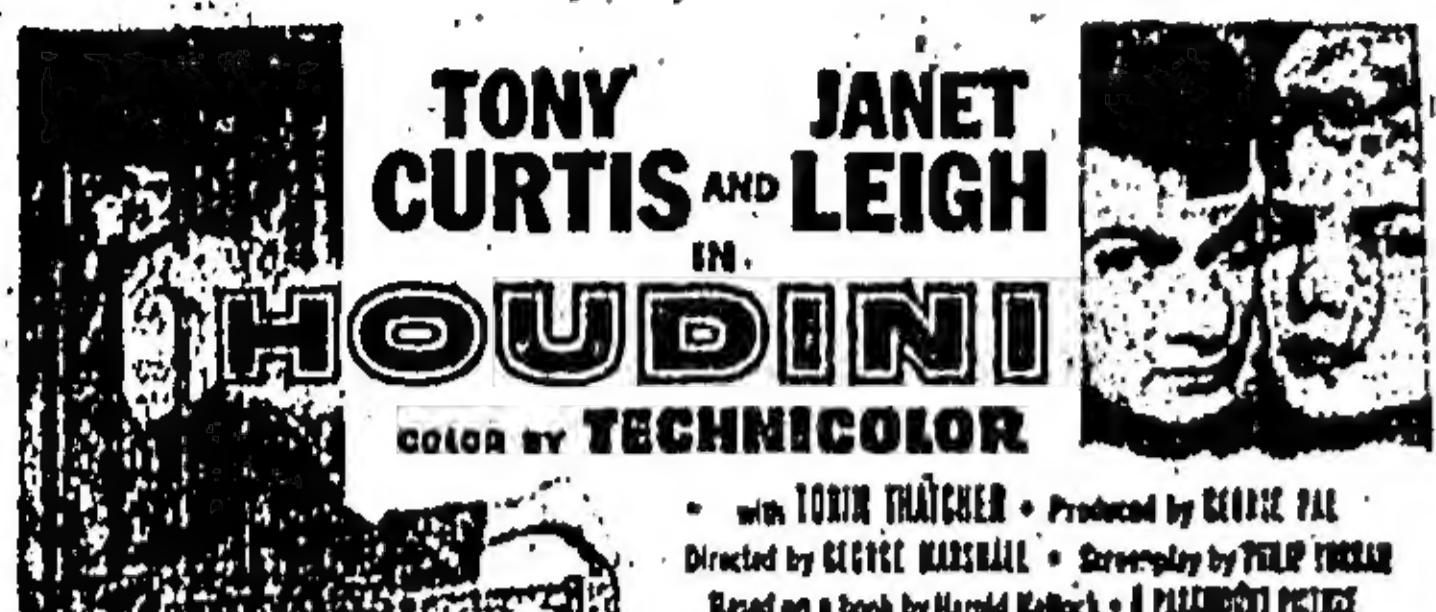
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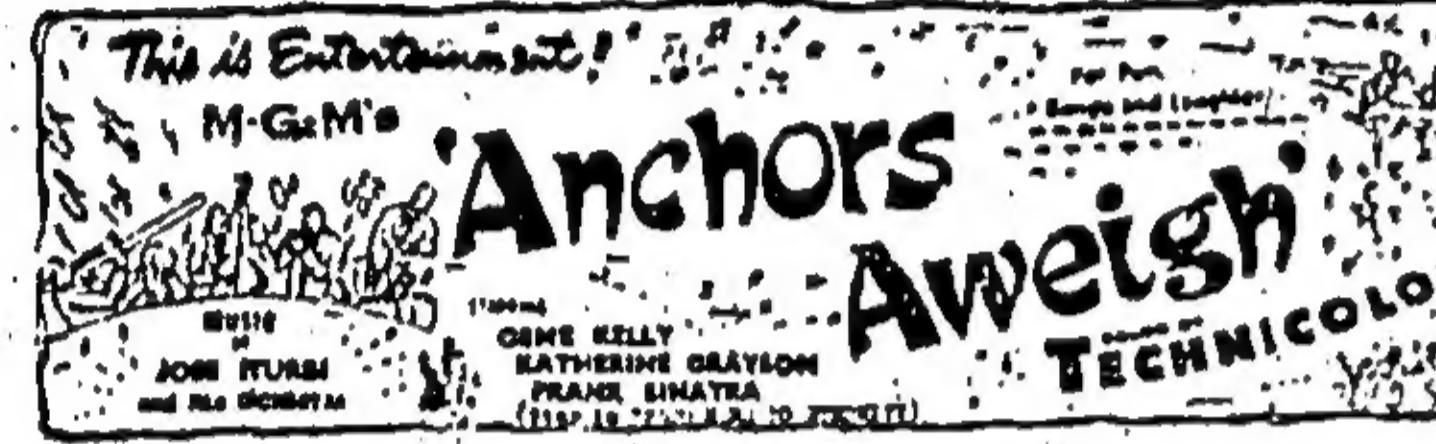
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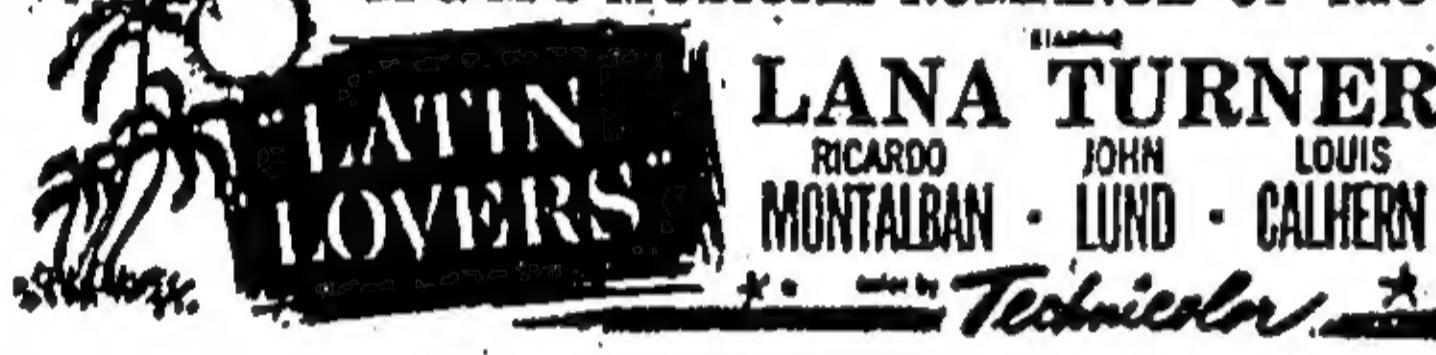
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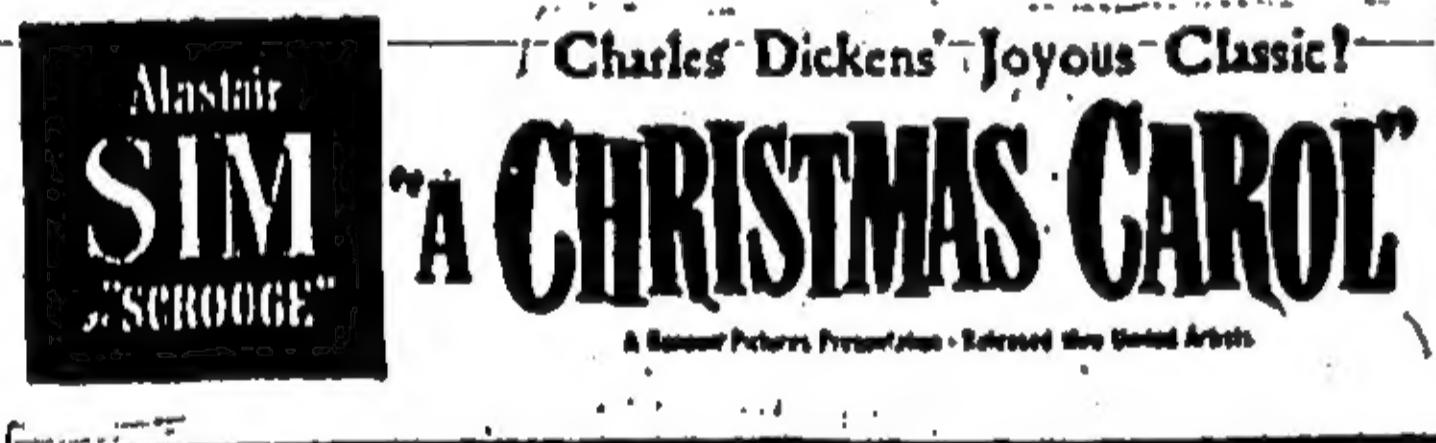
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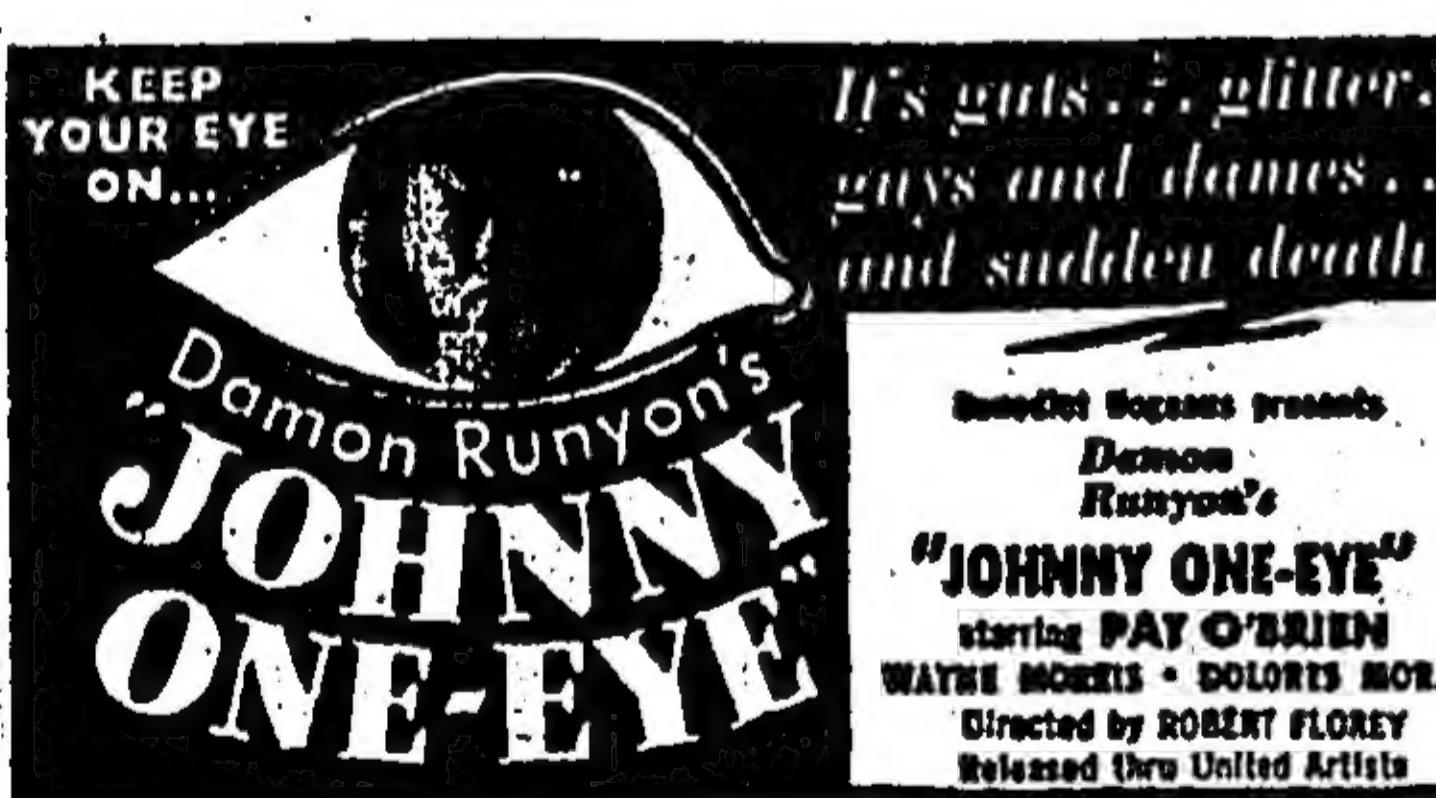
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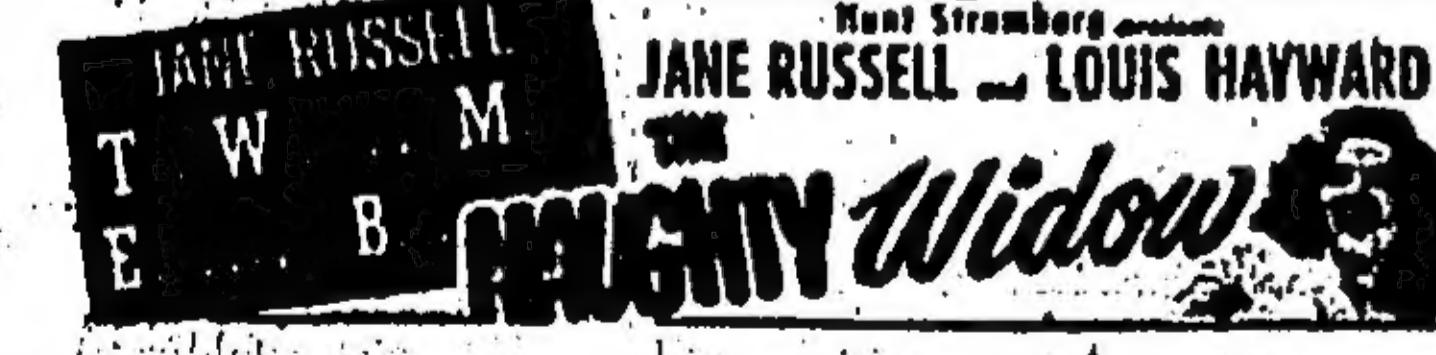
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SO TRUE— AND WHAT IS THAT OTHER, NO GOOD ONE?

US AID TO PAKISTAN

Forthcoming NATO Meeting One Of Most Important

Paris, Dec. 10. The forthcoming session of the Council of Ministers of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation promises to be one of the most important, both politically and militarily, of all the meetings of this body held so far, competent observers said here tonight.

Father-in-law Killed

Tokyo, Dec. 10. The police in Kawasaki city, near Tokyo, today arrested Masayo Matsui, 25-year-old housewife, on a charge of manslaughter. The police said Masayo's father-in-law complained about her bad cooking and started hitting her with a broom handle. The police then alighted Masayo took the handle from the father-in-law and beat him to death. — China Mail Special.

Hold-Up In Paris Post, Office

Paris, Dec. 10.

A real touch of the Wild West of Buffalo Bill came to Paris today complete with "bank" robbers, a charming heroine and the dashing hero.

The hero was a young Post Office clerk, Marius Didier. The heroine was a charming female employee, Jeannine Pellet. And the bad man was a would-be Post Office robber.

The action started when Jeannine, counting up the day's receipts, had a pile of banknotes in front of her comely frame.

But the bold bandit was not overcome by beauty and asked for the money, as he waved a menacing gun in front of the terrified damsel.

The bold Marius took it all in and, with one amazing leap, he hurdled his counter like Douglas Fairbanks, Sr., and landed squarely on the back of the somewhat dazed hold-up man.

The bandit went down and stayed down. By the time the police arrived, Marius had him all trussed up in true western style ready for delivery.

Incidentally, Marius not only saved the girl—there was a little matter of 2,400,000 francs that might have gone from the government's coffers. — France-Press.

The Council is meeting from December 14 to 16 in Paris. From the military point of view, these observers pointed to the statements made by the French Defence Minister, M. René Pleven, before the Council of the Republic (French Upper House) in the light of the results of the recent NATO manoeuvres, and of the Soviet possession of atomic weapons.

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American military officials, during conversations here earlier this autumn with Pakistan Army Chief of Staff, Ayub Khan, agreed that United States military assistance should be extended to Pakistan. They passed their recommendation on to the State Department.

So far as the matter of American "bases" in Pakistan is concerned, officials said that there was some public misconception of what the discussions on this subject had concerned. They said that there was no desire on the part of the United States to establish American air bases in Pakistan but merely the wish to have an agreement that existing Pakistani bases could be used.

DOMINANT ROLE

One of the elements expected to play a dominant role in the forthcoming council discussions is the view now widely held in Europe that there is no immediate danger of Soviet aggression. With this in mind, observers here stressed that the original purposes of the Atlantic community—to pave the way towards closer political collaboration of the states involved—might now be closer to realisation.

A year ago, it was suggested that a political "standing group" might be set up alongside the permanent group which deals with military questions. As far as the annual review of NATO budgetary needs is concerned, it is now expected that this examination by the council would give rise to controversy as has been the case in the past.

The military leaders, observers said, were prepared to accept the limitations imposed by the economic conditions of the various countries on military expenditures. — France-Press.

DUBLIN, Dec. 10.

The Irish Government is to spend up to £5 million sterling on Irish roads and about £250,000 sterling for other public works. — Reuter.

Essential Political Decision Must Be Reached Soon

By STEWART HEMSLY

Washington, Dec. 10. Authoritative sources said today that President Eisenhower and the Secretary of State, Mr John Foster Dulles, soon must make a decision on whether to grant a considerable amount of military aid to Pakistan—a move urged by high American military officials.

The decision is essentially a political one, since it involves the possibility of injuring American relations with India.

The Indian Prime Minister, Mr Jawaharlal Nehru, has said that his country would view with disapproval any American strengthening of Pakistan's military might. And Russia, in a formal note, told Pakistan that it would consider it an unfriendly act if Pakistan entered a military alliance with the United States and the Americans' military bases in Pakistan.

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The question of Western strategy in general was understood to have been taken up at the recent Bermuda conference in the presence of Lord Ismay, the Secretary-General of NATO. It is believed that in particular, the questions of American troops in Europe, and the equipment of bases, including the problems of logistics involved, and the possibility of entrusting atomic weapons to NATO, were discussed.

GOVT WORKERS

Paralyse Italy

Rome, Dec. 10. Italy's Government machinery, railways, schools and telephone and telegraph systems will be paralysed from midnight tonight when 1,000,000 state workers begin a 24-hour strike for higher pay.

Communist, Christian Democrat, Social Democrat and Neo-Fascist labour leaders are allied for the first time in calling out all Government-paid workers.

The strike will be followed four days later by a 24-hour stoppage of six million industrial workers, also called out by the temporary alliance of the usually bitterly opposed labour federations.

Communist leaders threaten the two one-day strikes will be developed into the biggest labour campaign the country has ever seen directed against both the Government and the industrialists.

But the Government tonight threatened severe sanctions against all state employees who strike. In addition to losing a day's pay and all special allowances a black mark will be entered into the personal file of each striker, thus reducing his chances of promotion.

Emergency bus and air services have been organised to carry about 10 per cent of the passengers normally carried by the railways. Troops will run many of these services. — Reuter.

LUMBAGO BUT NO GOLD

Harrismith, South Africa, Dec. 10. A Harrismith farmer, Mr A. W. de Boer, hired two "split-leg allists," three witch doctors and "got through more digging in a day than I normally would do in two years," trying to locate £10,000 sterling in gold buried in his apple orchard.

The only result was "a magnificent attack of lumbago," but Mr de Boer, whose grandfather buried the gold in the field for safety before the British entered the town in the South African War, is now going to try a mine detector.

"The money is there," he said. His grandfather buried it just after the field had been ploughed and just before torrential rain levelled the ground. The African who helped him was killed by lightning and the farmer of 60 years ago never gave away his secret. — China Mail Special.

RUSSIAN FISH STORY

Paris, Dec. 10. Soviet fishermen in the Far East have caught an extremely rare kind of fish known as the moon fish. Moscow Radio reported today.

The fish is capable of laying 300,000,000 eggs a year. It is nearly 10 feet long, and has a beak-shaped mouth.

The radio said that this fish, found in the Pacific, emitted a powerful phosphorescent glow when it surfaced at night—hence its name. — France-Press.

LEE GREAT WORLD

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REDS ATTACK EISENHOWER

Russian Intransigence May Doom Big Four Meeting

American Reciprocal Trade Act Recommendation To Allow It To Expire

Washington, Dec. 10. Edwin Wilkinson, representing the National Association of Wool Manufacturers, today recommended that the Reciprocal Trade Act be allowed to expire when it comes up for renewal next year.

Mr Wilkinson said he thought that Congress should reassess the function of tariff and import quota regulation.

Mr Wilkinson testified today in Republican Senator George Malone's Sub-Committee investigating the availability of strategic materials and facilities.

He said that he had been against the Trade Act when it was approved, had been against it ever since and still was opposed to it.

"It is high time we conserves our resources," he declared. "We are not conserving them when we allow floods of imported products to destroy our domestic industries."

DETAILS LATER
Mr Wilkinson did not specifically discuss the wool industry, but said that he would submit a detailed statement on the wool situation to the Committee later.

Mr Tyrone Gillespie, representing the Dow Chemical Company, told the Committee he believed that domestic industry must be protected from ruinous imports, but added "it is currency convertibility, rather than tariffs, which represent the key to the world trade picture."

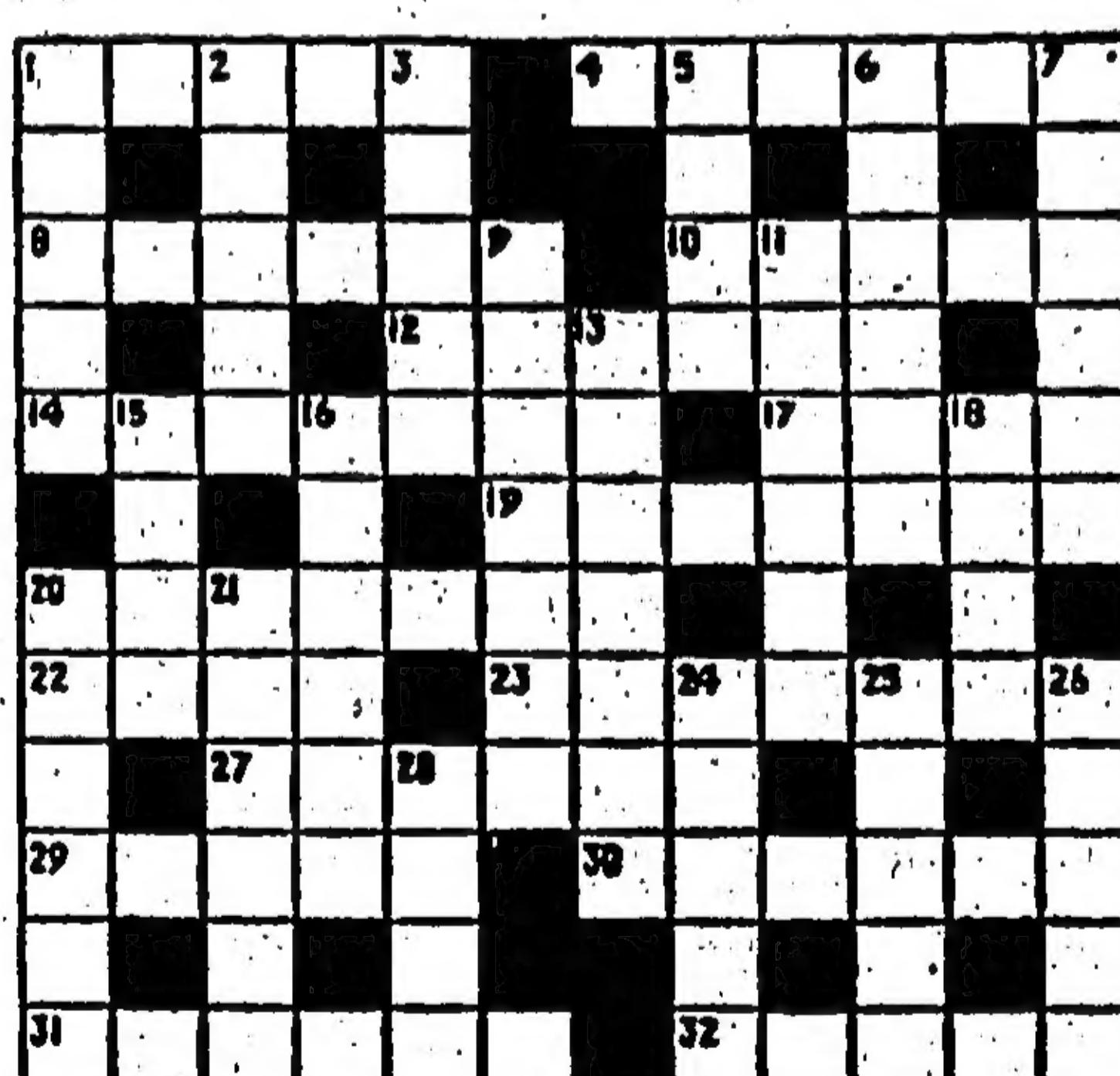
Mr Dowitt C. Echleek, Secretary of the Cordage Institute, said that raw materials used by the hand fibre cordage and twine industry were not available in the United States and must be imported.

HEALTHY CONDITION
He said that the industry was an essential one and must be maintained in a healthy condition "which can only be done through the assurance of a maximum normal business the United States market can afford."

Any circumstance tending to decrease the productive facilities of cordage and twine in the United States would be a serious blow to "our national peace-time economy and a deadly blow to our national defence," he said.

He added that the United States must import abaca and celanana — principally from the Philippines, Indonesia, Africa and Central and South America — but that the manufacturing industry should be protected by a "reasonable" import tariff on hard fibre, cordage and twine products. —United Press.

A British Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- Chooses (5).
- Lithe (6).
- Hang around (6).
- Provide for (8).
- Make effervescent (6).
- Impose (7).
- Trial (4).
- Moans (7).
- Cautious (7).
- Ireland (4).
- Close relations (7).
- Command (6).
- Dodge (5).
- Going astray (8).
- Walk like a child (6).
- Something special (9).

DOWN

- Throb (6).
- Principal (6).
- Weapon (5).
- One of royal race of Peru (4).
- Materini (6).
- Earns (6).
- Hermit (7).
- Bear witness (6).
- Turn into ca h (7).
- Close-to (4).
- Unclosed (6).
- Agitate (4).
- John closely (6).
- Irreverent (6).
- Pete (6).
- Baldin (6).
- Valid (6).
- Cure (4).

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD — Across: 3. Opponent, 8 Room, 9. Initiative, 11. Baronets, 13. Hesitant, 15. Hesitator, 18. Hesitant, 19. Rats, 21. Asterisk, 25. Mailman, 26. Worm, 27. Allowable, Down: 1. Crab, 2. Fair, 4. Pine, 5. Oak, 6. Elephant, 7. Therm, 9. Inner, 10. Islet, 12. Arena, 16. Rivers, 18. Terps, 19. Hayes, 19. Rumble, 20. Total, 21. Anew, 22. Turn, 23. Mol, 24. Kind.

French Officials Dismiss New Communist Be Nice To France Campaign

London, Dec. 10. Angry and disappointed British official quarters feared today that Russian intransigence will doom agreement at the Big Four meeting in Berlin.

As Soviet radios and newspapers blared out attacks on President Eisenhower's atomic plan and the Bermuda conference, British quarters became pessimistic about Russia's willingness to compromise.

But quarters here also hailed the welcome of the conference by the East German Vice-Premier, Walter Ulbricht, as an indication that the conference will go on.

Ulbricht did not say whether Soviet Foreign Minister V. M. Molotov would come on January 4 as proposed by the West.

Informants here noted that the Soviet and satellite Press and radio were urgently appealing to France for a closer alliance against Germany in an attempt to split the French from the Americans and British before the Berlin meeting.

The boy and scores of natives had crowded around the cameras for the filming of "Garden of Evil" here and he was accidentally knocked down. The boy fell five feet to the ground and was about to fall another 15 feet when the red-haired actress jumped down and caught him.

The boy was not hurt but Miss Hayward required first aid. Director Henry Hathaway said that the injury would not interrupt production because the actress will be working on horseback. —United Press.

Japanese Glass In Hongkong

Tokyo, Dec. 11. The Asahi Glass and Nihon Sheet Glass companies have shipped 1,500 cases of sheet glass to Hongkong in an effort to recover the British Colony's market for Japanese glass products, according to Japanese press reports today.

Until recently Hongkong has been the choice market for Japanese sheet glass but the inadequate supply of sheet glass by Japanese manufacturers caused Hongkong traders to buy goods from European countries.

The Asahi Glass Co. and the Nihon Sheet Glass Co. are now awaiting the reaction of Hongkong traders to test the shipment.

If reactions were favourable, they would ship another 1,500 cases shortly, the reports said. —Reuter.

Pravda warned the French that they would otherwise be reduced to insignificance by the United States and Britain and lowered to the status of a small power if they accepted the European Army.

This was held to reaffirm anew that Russia will oppose German rearmament in Berlin and will go to almost any length to avert it, or else will bar German unification indefinitely. —United Press.

FRENCH OPINION
Paris, Dec. 10. French officials tonight dismissed the Soviet "be nice to France" campaign as a manoeuvre to divide the Western powers and to reinforce French opposition to the European Army.

These officials said an article in today's Soviet newspaper Pravda on the anniversary of the 1944 Franco-Soviet Pact was a blatant attempt to exploit French anxieties about German rearmament.

The French Foreign Office declined to make any official comment for the time being on the Soviet press and radio statement.

Russia had gone out of its way for some time to "woo" French public opinion in a bid

to cause friction among the Western powers, the French officials said.

It was clear that the Soviet leaders considered France to be the most vulnerable of the "Big Three" for such tactical manoeuvres, they added.

The Communist Party is certain to exploit the new Soviet approach towards France to the full in its nation-wide anti-European Army campaign. Qualified observers believe it might have some impact on public opinion.

GOOD WILL
Paris, Dec. 10. The Department of Commerce reported today that the British overseas trade in the first 10 months of 1953 showed the least deficit of any such period in the last three years.

This resulted from a downturn in imports. According to the Department's Foreign Commerce weekly, Britain's trade deficit for the period was only £583,000,000, compared to £1,039,000,000 and £2,066,000,000 in 1951 and 1952 respectively. The value of imports totalled £2,795,000,000 for this period compared with £3,278,000,000 and £2,858,000,000 in the same 10-month periods of 1951 and 1952.

CLOSE STUDY
Paris, Dec. 10. But French parliamentarians are unlikely to be impressed unless Russia gives part of its good will by agreeing to a German and Austrian settlement at the Berlin Foreign Ministers' conference in January, political quarters said.

In any case the first Soviet reaction to President Eisenhower's proposals for control of atomic energy indicates that Russia is far from prepared to modify her policy in a fundamental manner, these sources added.

French officials described some of the statements contained in the Pravda article as "quite childish."

One example was a reference to the Soviet Government's 1941 offer to give France every assistance and co-operation in the joint struggle against Germany.

"The way the Russians gloss over the Soviet-German Pact of 1939, one of the main causes of the catastrophe of 1940, is typical of the naive Soviet approach," the officials commented. —United Press.

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Simultaneously, an editorial in Moscow's Pravda and several satellite radios in effect extended an offer to France for the reinforcement of the Franco-Russian 1944 agreement of mutual assistance.

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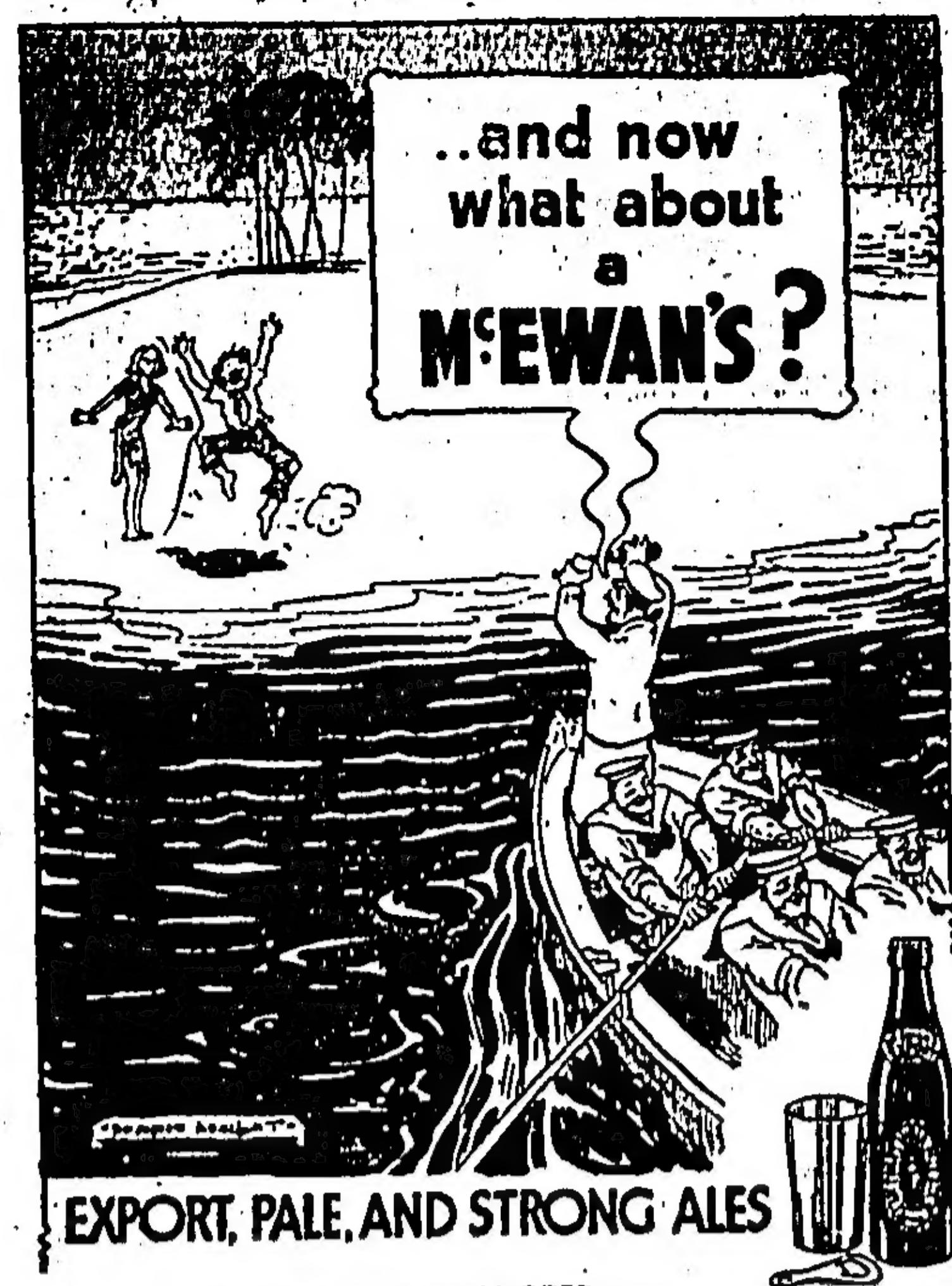
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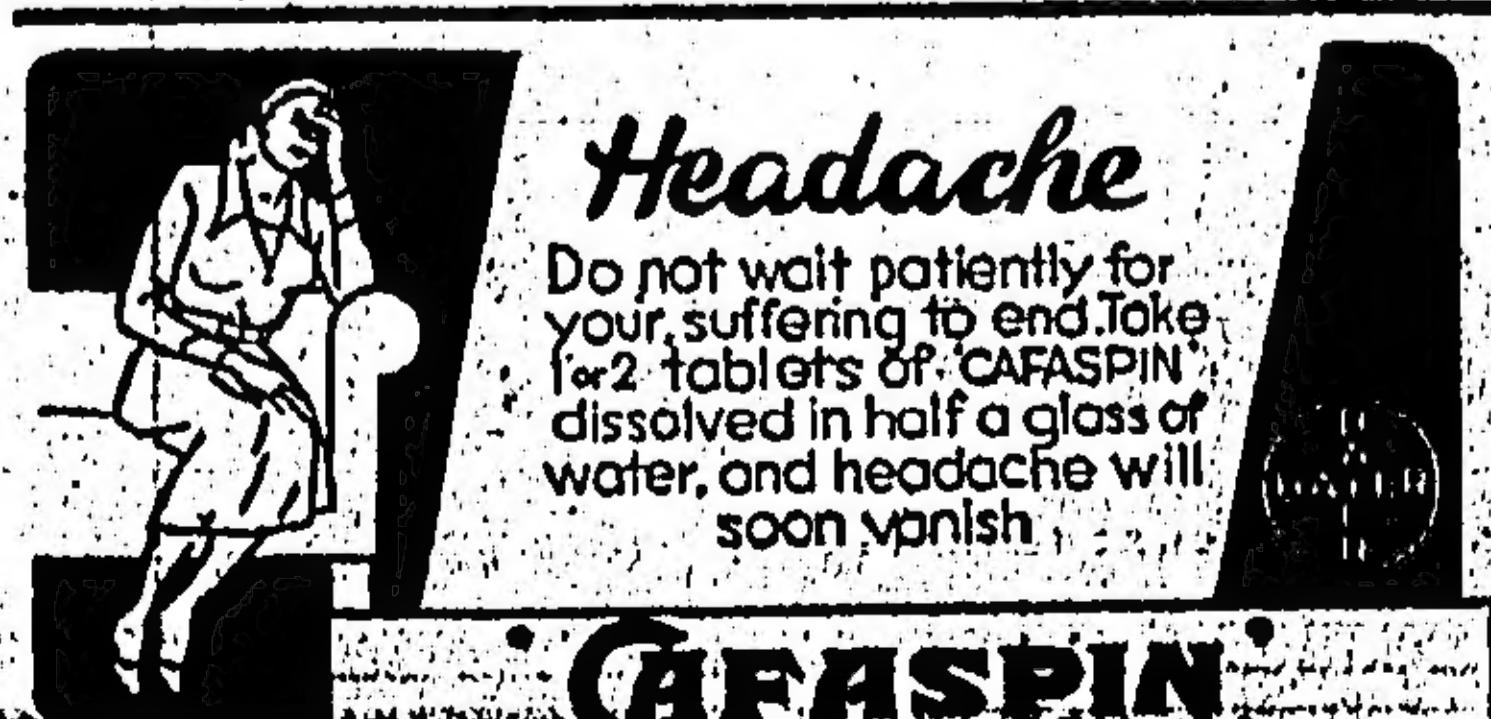
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"TRIUMPH AND TRAGEDY" . . . CHAPTER 24

THORNY QUESTION OF POLAND

By Sir WINSTON Churchill

THE Soviet-sponsored Lublin Government, or the "Waraw" Government as the Russians of all names, preferred to call it, viewed the London Polish Government with bitter animosity. Feeling between them had got worse, not better, since our October meeting in Moscow.

Soviet troops were flooding across Poland, and the Polish Underground Army was freely charged with the murder of Russian soldiers and with sabotage and attacks on their rear areas and their lines of communication. Both access and information were denied to the Western Powers.

In Italy and on the Western Front nearly half a million Poles were fighting valiantly for the final destruction of the Nazi armies. They and many others elsewhere in Europe were eagerly looking forward to the liberation of their country and a return to their homeland from voluntary and honourable exile. The large community of Poles in the United States anxiously awaited a settlement between the three Great Powers.

The questions which we discussed may be summarised as follows:

How to form a single Provisional Government for Poland.

How and when to hold free elections.

How to settle the Polish frontiers, both in the east and the west.

How to safeguard the rear areas and lines of communication of the advancing Soviet armies.

WHEN we met on Feb. 6 President Roosevelt opened the discussion by saying that, coming from America, he had a distant view on the Polish question. There were five or six million Poles in the United States, mostly of the second generation, and most of them were gradually in favour of the Curzon Line. They knew they would have to give up East Poland.

As compensation they would like East Prussia and part of Germany, or at any rate something with which to be compensated. As he had said at Teheran, it would make it easier for him if the Soviet Government would make some concession such as Lvov, and some of the oil-bearing lands, to counterbalance the loss of Königsberg. But the most important point was a permanent Government for Poland.

General opinion in the United States was against recognising the Lublin Government, because it represented only a small section of Poland and of the Polish nation. There was a demand for a Government of national unity, drawn perhaps from the five main political parties.

HE knew none of the members of either the London or Lublin Governments. He had been greatly impressed by Mikolajczyk when he had come to Washington, and felt he was an honest man.

He therefore hoped to see the creation of a Government of Poland which would be representative, and which the great majority of Poles would support even if it was only an interim one. There were many ways in which it

in this instalment the Prime Minister begins his account of the discussions on Poland which occurred at seven out of eight plenary meetings of the Yalta Conference. Since the Prime Minister had brought together in Moscow the previous autumn representatives of the exiled Polish Government from London and the Communist "Polish National Committee" from Lublin, the Russians had recognised the latter as a Provisional Government. Meanwhile, M. Mikolajczyk, the Polish Premier, who had been to the Moscow meeting, had been dismissed by his colleagues in London, and had resigned.

might be formed, such as creating a small Presidential Council to take temporary control and set up a more permanent institution.

I then said it was my duty to state the position of his Majesty's Government. I had repeatedly declared in Parliament and in public my resolution to support the claim of the U.S.S.R. to the Curzon Line as interpreted by the Soviet Government.

That meant including Lvov in the U.S.S.R. I had been considerably criticised in Parliament (as had the Foreign Secretary) and by the Conservative Party for this.

Such a Government could prepare for a free vote of the Polish people on their future constitution and administration.

If this could be done we should have taken one great step forward towards the future peace and prosperity of Central Europe. I said I was sure that the communications of the Russian Army, now driving forward in victorious pursuit of the Germans, could be protected and guaranteed.

But I had always thought that, after the agonies Russia had suffered in defending herself against the Germans, and her great deeds in driving them back and liberating Poland, her claim was founded not on force but on right. If, however, she made a gesture of magnanimity to a much weaker Power, and some territorial concession, such as the President had suggested, we should both admire and acclaim the Soviet action.

But a strong, free, and independent Poland was much more important than particular territorial boundaries. I wanted the Poles to be able to live freely and live their own lives in their own way. That was the object which I had always heard Marshal Stalin proclaim with the utmost firmness, and it was because I trusted his declarations about the sovereignty, independence, and freedom of Poland that I rated the frontier question as less important.

This was dear to the hearts of the British nation and the Commonwealth. It was for this that we had gone to war against Germany—that Poland should be free and sovereign.

Everyone knew what a terrible risk we had taken when we had gone to war in 1939 although so ill-armed. It had nearly cost us our life, not only as an Empire but as a nation.

This was a matter of life and death for the Soviet State, and its policy differed greatly from that of the Czarist Government. The Czars had wanted to suppress and assimilate Poland. Soviet Russia had started a policy of friendliness and friendship, moreover with an independent Poland.

That was the whole basis of the Soviet attitude, namely, that they wanted to see Poland independent, free, and strong.

Ho then dealt with some of the points which Mr. Roosevelt and I had put forward. The President, he said, had suggested there should be some modification of the Curzon Line and that Lvov and perhaps certain other districts should be given to Poland, and I had said that this would be a gesture of magnanimity. But the Curzon Line had not been invented by the Russians. It had been drawn up by Curzon and Clemenceau and representatives of the United States at the conference in 1918, to which Russia had not been invited.

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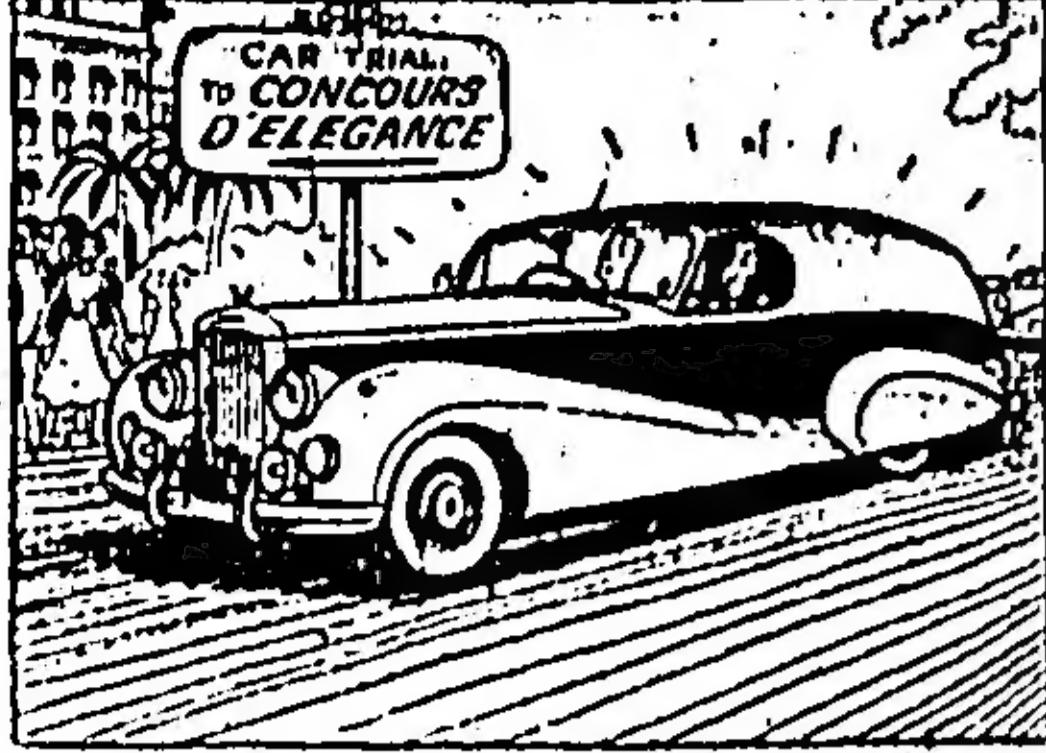
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THE DUFFLE TWINS



by DODD

• BY • THE • WAY •

by Beachcomber

CHARLIE SUET has not forgotten the exquisite Slopercorn girl. Almost every day the postman brings leaflets and pamphlets to the Slopercorn residence. "It's all on," he says. The fact that few of them have any connection with the obtaining of permits for licences for mobile homes, caravans, etc., seems merely an excuse to keep the sender's memory green in that wayward heart. The Slopercorns here are a family in the true sense of the word, a family with a literature which is filling "scalding-irons," a diet for "fetish," the duty on Dandy, paper-weight, perfume on the shapely limb and the like. Miss Slopercorn, who is a mother, is not without a mother's love, however, and she says, "I always say it takes all sorts to make a world, and you're one of the placid chafers that make up the world."

"Macbeth" on ice

THE first feature production of the year will probably be a well produced "Macbeth" for the Shakespearean playgoers. The opportunity is there, but the production will be limited, and the public will lose some of the effect by being made by skaters.

YOUR BIRTHDAY... By STELLA

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11

BORN today, the stars have given to you your own way and initiate you into it. You might make money, but rather than make it, follow the blind lead of your heart. You would never be a party "wheelhorse," but you might develop into a "particularly successful" independent.

It is important that you select a marriage partner who, it temperament, is equal to your own. Find someone "born under Aries" or "Taurus" for the best contentment. You will want to have a family to choose a mate who has similar ideas on the subject.

To find what the stars have in store for you, add your birthday star and read the corresponding paragraph. Let your birthday star be your daily guide.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12

SACITARIS (Nov. 22-Dec. 22) — Not much more than two weeks left to care for all your Christmas preparations. Better get busy.

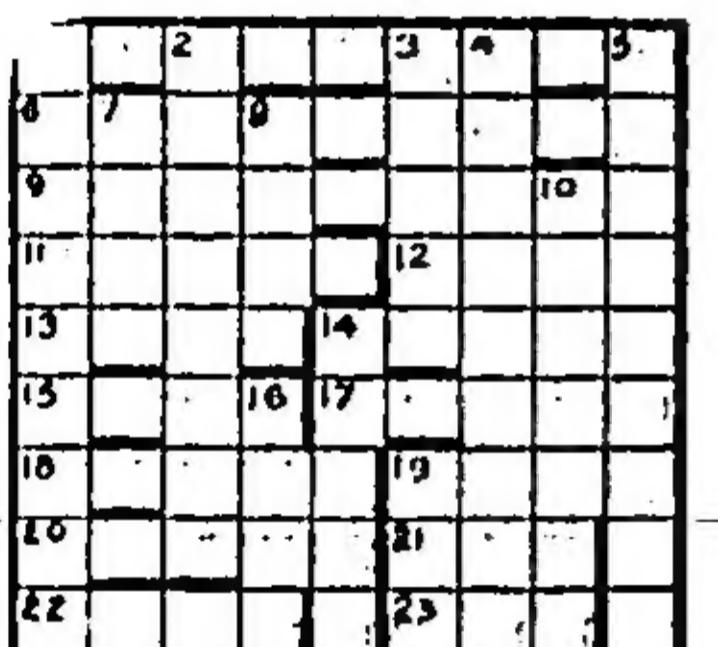
ASTROLOGER (Dec. 23-Jan. 20) — You have work that must be done, get it over with early this morning and then you can play.

ARCTIC and musical, you will probably have talent in some musical department and you might select a musical career with excellent prospects for professional success. Since you have a strong public spirit, you would be a good lecturer, attorney, or even a politician. But you must be allowed

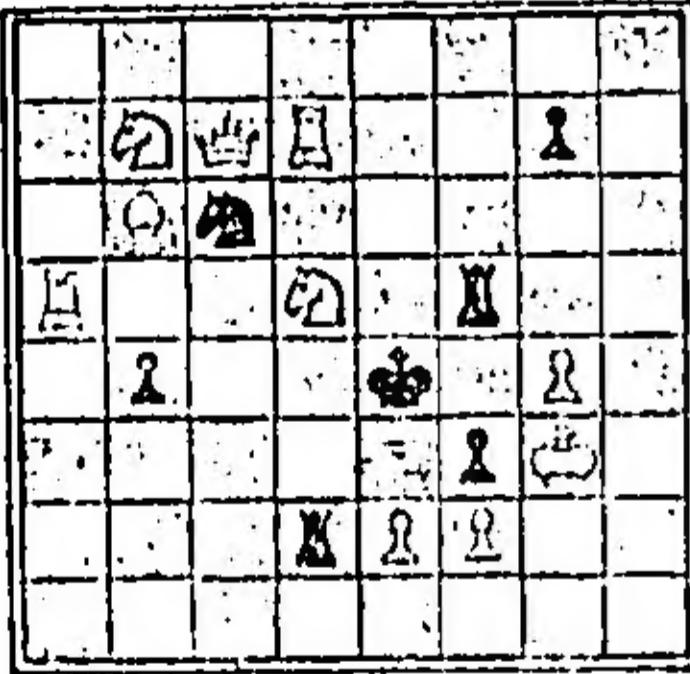
to do your work done ahead of time.

COMPIC (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — If you are one of those who like to leave a few things to the last moment, do it. Do them now.

CROSSWORD



CHESS PROBLEM

By P. OVERKAMP
Black, 7 pieces.

White, 10 pieces.
White to play: mate in two.
Solution to yesterday's problem:

1. R-R4; threat 2. B-Q6 (dis ch); 1... PxP; 2. R-K5 (dis ch); 1... K-K4; 2. B-R2 (dis ch); 1... P-R4; 2. B-K5 (dis ch).

SOLUTION
TO CHECK
YESTERDAY'S
PUZZLE

Puzzle

White, 10 pieces.
White to play: mate in two.
Solution to yesterday's problem:

1. R-R4; threat 2. B-Q6 (dis ch); 1... PxP; 2. R-K5 (dis ch); 1... K-K4; 2. B-R2 (dis ch); 1... P-R4; 2. B-K5 (dis ch).



"That's Dr. Tomson showing off his candid X-rays again!"

WOMANSENSE

EFFECT OF DIVORCE
ON THE CHILD

By GARRY C. MYERS, Ph.D.

THERE are 9,000,000 stepchildren in the United States, 1,000,000 of them between the ages of ten and sixteen, and their number is increasing, due to the high divorce rate and casualties in recent wars.

Feeling of Insecurity

Remarriage often brings into the home a new child or children, if the husband brings some of his children, and the wife brings some of hers, and they have a new set of children. "Your children and my children and our children" can easily become the problem. And stepchildren mean new and added in-laws to complicate matters further.

Some interesting light is thrown on the dark experiences of stepchildren by Dr. William Carlton

Smith, in "The Stepchild," University of Chicago Press. Dr. Smith finds that the stepchild contributes more than his quota to juvenile delinquency, that girls are more affected by a broken home than boys and by a stepfather than by a stepmother, who is a very different person from what she was when she left this home to marry.

He notes that the children usually stay with the mother, and that if she goes with them to her parents, these children have to make adjustments to the grandparent and other relatives. So does their mother, who is a very different person from what she was when she left this home to marry.

Consider the tug at the child's heartstrings by all the relatives and the possibility of increasing animosity toward the other parent. If the court should "cut a child in two" by assigning him partly to one parent and partly to the other, even if the parents have moved far away from each other, the child, Dr. Smith continues, "is apt to be under a taboo upon what he can say concerning events in the other household. Not only must he suppress part of his memories, but he must alter his personal habits and his family terminology each time that a shift is made."

A Parroted Half-Truth

Writing about Dr. Smith's study, Dr. Paul Poponko says in his bulletin, "Family Life":

"His comments on the effect of divorce are particularly pertinent because of the half-truth so regularly parroted by women divorcing their husbands, that it is better to bring up a child in a peaceful home with one parent, than with two parents. The logical solution would be to remove the conflict—a last frequently accomplished rather easily by competent marriage counselling... the court decree does not always bring peace!"

However, Dr. Smith notes that many stepparents have proved successful with the stepchild and calls to mind the devotion of Abraham Lincoln whose stepmother, widow Sarah Bush Johnson, came to him three years after his real mother's death. We all know some divorced persons who have also been good stepparents. Truly they deserve applause for their achievement.

Obviously, the stepchild whose one parent is dead faces fewer problems, as is true, than if both parents are divorced.

Let's Eat

BY IDA BAILEY ALLEN

Preserving Nutritive
Values In Vegetables

Pare, dice, slice or cut in strips. In a heavy, wide saucepan melt and slightly brown 1/2 cup butter or margarine. For 3 to 4 c. of the prepared vegetable, pour in 1/2 pint more than 1 in. boiling water. Add 1 tsp. salt and 1/4 tsp. monosodium glutamate. If the vegetable is not "garden-fresh," add 1/4 tsp. sugar or honey to compensate for the conversion of the natural sugar into starch that has taken place since harvesting of the vegetable.

Stir in the prepared vegetable. Cover closely. Boil 1 min. Then turn the heat down and boil the vegetable is barely tender and the water evaporated, from 10-25 min., according to the variety and the size of the pieces. Shake the pan occasionally to promote even cooking.

Dinner

Grapefruit Dill Pickles
Roast Beef "au Jus"
White Potato Pudding
Mixed Vegetables
Raspberry Sherbet
Walnut Squares

Coffee Tea Milk
All Measurements Are Level
Recipes Serve Four to Six

White Potato Pudding

Coarsely grate 6 good-sized peeled white potatoes. Place in a saucepan; add 1 in. boiling water and 1/2 tsp. salt. Boil rapidly 8 min. Beat 3 grade "A" eggs. Add 2 tbsp. melted butter, monosodium glutamate, 1/4 c. milk, 1/4 c. soured cream, 1/4 c. onion, and 1/4 c. minced parsley. Stir in the potato and liquid. Transfer to a well-buttered 8 in. baking dish. Place in a pan surrounded with hot water. Bake about 45 min., or until firm. In a moderately hot oven, 350°-375° F.

Walnut Squares

Stir 1/2 c. butter, margarine or shortening until creamy. Gradually work in 1/2 c. sugar and 3 beaten egg yolks (grade A or B). Sift together 1 1/2 c. already-sifted enriched flour, 2 1/2 tsp. baking powder and 1/4 tsp. salt. Add 3/4 c. finely-chopped walnuts. Stir alternately into the first mixture with 1/2 c. milk. Last, fold in 2 egg whites beaten stiff. Transfer the remaining egg white to the batter to an oiled 7 1/2 in. baking pan; bake 45 min. in a moderate oven, 375° F. Turn onto a cake rack to cool. Cover with plain uncooked egg-white icing. Mark in 2-in. squares and put 1 whole walnut meat on each. Serve cut in squares.

Use either English or black walnuts for this cake.

Cozy Suit



BOYS' AND GIRLS' MAGAZINE

The Magician Goes for a Swim

—He Turned Himself into a Duck, Then a Frog—

By MAX TRELL

KNARF and Hand, the shadow-children with the turned-about names, were sitting on rock at the edge of the pond with their toes dangling in the water. They couldn't make up their minds whether to go in for a swim or not, for it was still early in the morning and the water felt a little cold.

Footsteps on the Path

It was at this moment that they heard footsteps on the path behind them and, turning around, they saw their friend Mr. Merlin, the Magician walking toward them, a smile on his cheerful face.

Mr. Merlin was wearing a bathing suit. He was also carrying a large, black book, which looked thick enough to be a dictionary.

"Howdy!" greeted Mr. Merlin, as he came up to Knarf and Hand and stood at the edge of the pond looking out over the water.

"Are you going in swimming, Mr. Merlin?" asked Knarf.

"It all depends," replied Mr. Merlin.

"Depends on what?" asked Knarf.

Maybo Just A Paddle

"Depends on whether the water is warm or cold. If it's cold, I'll just go in for a paddle."

Hand now told Mr. Merlin in her opinion, the water was certainly cold. "But how can you go for a paddle?" she asked with some curiosity.

"You mean you're just going to stand in shallow water and paddle your hands about?"

"Not at all," said Mr. Merlin. "I intend to paddle all around the pond. I'll be ready to do it in a minute."

Saying this, Mr. Merlin opened the book. Knarf and Hand caught a glance of the words on the cover of the book. The words read, "Magic Swimming Ruler for Magicians."

Mr. Merlin looked at one of the pages inside the book, then nodded, then mumbled some strange words. There was a puff of smoke and a sudden loud quacking noise.

A Duck Paddle

The next second, Knarf and Hand were astonished to see Mr. Merlin, covered with white feathers, paddling around the pond like a duck.

In the middle of the pond, he further astonished his two friends by tipping over and sticking his head deep down under the water with his legs.

"Swimming like a frog?" he explained to Knarf and Hand. "but still it

high up in the air. Then he came paddling back. As soon as he stepped on dry land, he turned himself back into his regular shape again.

"That was a pretty good paddle," he told Knarf and Hand. "Ducks just sit on the top of the water and move their legs up and down, as though they were climbing stairs. But it's not really swimming." He glanced in the book again, looking at another page this time.

"Ah," he said, "this suits me to a T. I'll dive into the pond, swim under water a bit, turn around and dive back out again. Just watch me!"

Mr. Merlin mumbled some more strange words, while Knarf and Hand wondered what he was going to turn into now.

They soon saw. Again there was a puff of smoke, followed by a gruff, grunting sound. Something large and green flashed through the air and splashed into the water.

It looked like an enormous green frog. It was, of course, Mr. Merlin. They could see his long legs scurrying across the water. Then he swirled around, where they were sitting, then came springing out through the water and landed with a plop right next to them.

An instant later, he was back in his original shape again.

"Swimming like a frog?" he explained to Knarf and Hand. "but still it

Rupert's Coral Island—34

Rupert's Coral Island—34

Just

Arrived

MORE

ADVENTURES

of

RUPERT

\$5

By GRACE THORNLIEF

A SPLENDID choice for cold days or for general wear, this suit of camel's hair and wool lined in plaid wool challis to match the blouse. The body jacket sports a half belt in back and has two curved patch pockets at the hips and one at the breast. The skirt is straight. The classic blouse has a long sleeve. Good country stuff, this excellent for the consumer, because it is practical yet pretty and cosily warm.

WHAT'S HER LINE?

CLAUDE RIGGETT

Reassurance letters to meet your occupation.

(Solution on page 10)

ANSWER ADOPTIVE



CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

SAILINGS TO

"SZECHUEN" Kowloon 11 a.m. 13th Dec.
"ANKING" Singapore & Penang 10 a.m. 17th Dec.
"HUFEN" Tsinling & Tientsin 10 a.m. 17th Dec.
Sails from Custodian Wharf

ARRIVALS FROM

"SZECHUEN" Kowloon 7 a.m. 12th Dec.
"FOOCHOW" Bangkok 12/18th Dec.

A.O. LINE LTD./C.N. CO., LTD., JOINT SERVICE

SAILINGS TO

"CHANGTE" Sydney & Melbourne 10th Dec.
ARRIVALS FROM
"CHANGSHA" Australia & Manila 18th Dec.

BLUE FUNNEL LINE

Scheduled Sailings to Europe via Aden & Port Said

"ANTHOCIUS" Liverpool & Glasgow 13th Dec. Loads 14th Dec.
"CYCLOPS" Liverpool & Dublin 23rd Dec. Sails 24th Dec.

"AUTOLYCUS" Génova, London, Rotterdam, Amsterdam, Antwerp & Hamburg 20th Dec. 28th Dec.

"PERSEUS" Marseilles, Liverpool & Glasgow 5th Jan. 6th Jan.

"ANCHISES" Liverpool & Glasgow 13th Jan. 14th Jan.

Scheduled Sailings from Europe

Sails Liverpool Arrives Hong Kong
Sailed Rotterdam
Sailed Holl's Wharf

G. "PERSEUS" do 13th Dec. 13th Dec.
S. "ANCHISES" do 24th Dec.

G. "CLYTONEUS" do 28th Dec.

S. "ASTY ANAX" do 8th Jan. 1954

G. "PYRRHUS" do 13th Jan. 1954

S. "EUMAUS" do 20th Jan. 1954

G. "ASCANIUS" do 28th Jan. 1954

G. Loading Glasgow, before Liverpool. S. Loading Swansea, before Liverpool.

Carriers' option to proceed via other ports to load & discharge cargo.

CHINA MAIL

HONGKONG
PUBLISHED DAILY
(AFTERNOON)

Price, 20 cents per copy.

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per month. U.K., British Possessions and other countries \$7.00 per month.

News contributions, always welcome, and may be used in the

other business communications and

advertisements to the Secretary.

Telephone: 24811 (5 Lines).

KOWLOON OFFICE

Salisbury Road,

Telephone: 23238.

NOTICE IS HEREBY
GIVEN that the Thirty-first
Ordinary Meeting of the Com-
pany's Shareholders will be
held at 12 o'clock Noon on
Saturday, 12th December,
1953, in the Company's
Hongkong Office, St. George's
Building, 2nd floor, Chater
Road, Victoria, Hongkong, for
the purpose of:-1. Receiving the Statement
of Accounts and Report of the
Directors for the year
ended 30th September
1953.

2. Electing two Directors.

3. Appointing Auditors and
fixing their remuneration.4. Confirming the Interim
Dividend of 30 cents per
share, free of tax, and
sanctioning the recom-
mendation of the Directors
as to the payment of a
Final Dividend of 70 cents
per share, free of tax, in
respect of fully paid
shares and a proportionate
amount in respect of partly
paid Shares.Births, Deaths, Marriages.
Persons \$5.00 per insertion
not exceeding 25 words, 25
cents each additional word.ADDITIONAL INSERTIONS
\$1.50 PER WORD OVER 25

10 cents PER WORD OVER 25

If not prepaid a booking fee
of 50 cents is charged.

DEATHS

CHAPMAN—Frank Leslie, beloved
husband of Ivy, died suddenly,
December 11, 1953.The Transfer Books and
Register of Shareholders will be
closed as from 28th
November, 1953 to 11th
December, 1953, both days
inclusive.Dividend Warrants will be
available for collection, or
will be dealt with in accordance
with standing instructions,
on or after 14th
December, 1953.THE MERCANTILE BANK
OF INDIA, LIMITED,has pleasure in announcing
its return to Re-built Premisesat 7, Queen's Road, Central,
onMonday, 14th December, 1953.
(Tel. Nos. remain unchanged)Dated at Hongkong this
20th day of November, 1953.By Order of the Board
of Directors,
P. W. A. WOOD,
Secretary &
Chief Accountant.

Hongkong, 20th Nov. 1953.

FOR SALE

THE "POST" TYPHOON MAP In-
corporating amendments to the
Local and National Postage
Rates. Mounted \$5.00. Unmounted
\$4.00. Obtainable from "S. C. M.
Post".

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MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN

HE IS ONE OF YOU NOW. DRESS HIM
AS THE OTHERS NOW—STUPID AND
OBEYED—ONE OF THE
LIVING-DEAD OLD-EAR—

LEAVE US, DOC.

I'M TIRED OF THIS
KINGDOM OF
SILENT SLAVES.
I'VE ALWAYS
DREAMED OF
LIVING
AMAN
LIKE
YOU.WHY DID IT TURN OUT LIKE THIS?
WHY DID YOU FIGHT ME & OH—
YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW
I'M HITTING YOU!

5-9

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FERNAND

Let The Kid Try!

By Lee Falk and Phil Davis

DINE
At the
P. G.

For Reservations Tel: 27880

London, Dec. 10.

The second auctioneer's

catalogue of ex-King Farouk's

treasures was published today.

It is a 120-page list of the form

of Egyptian monarch's stamp

collection, published for General

Naguib's Government by the

London auctioneering firm of

Harmers.

Egyptian stamps in the collection

total 1,100 lots; the rest of

the world 450.

One of the stamps which will

go up for auction over six days

beginning on February 12 is a

rare two-cent British Guiana

issue of 1851, expected to bring

about £1,000.

The rarest item is believed to

be an envelope bearing three

stamps of an 1858 issue in the

Rumanian province of Moldavia.

It will bring "anything over

£2,000," the auctioneers ex-
pected.

Yesterday, a huge catalogue

of coins and other palace

treasures of the deposed monarch

was issued by another

auctioneer—China Mail Special.

London, Dec. 10.

The Pakistan Government to-

night declared a strike by more

than 1,000 Karachi dockers

against the Government.

The dockers struck today in

support of their claim for higher

wages, bonuses and better work-

ing conditions.

The dockers' Union says it

called a "legal" strike because

the Government's conciliation

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A Government letter to the

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London,

Corinne Calvert Arrives Home



Corinne Calvert, famous French Film actress, after a long absence in Hollywood making pictures, returns home. She was greeted on arriving at Le Bourget by numerous friends with flowers.—Express Photo.

Special Coins Mean Extra Work For The Mint

In 1935 a special five shilling piece was issued to celebrate the silver jubilee of the accession of George V: today, depending upon its condition, the coin changes hands for between 10s and 12s 6d according to the *Financial Times*.

In its turn, the Festival of Britain was commemorated by the issue of a special Festival crown; just over 2m. pieces were struck. The Festival crowns, in the best tradition of British craftsmanship, were extremely popular, and now change hands for about 12s. 6d.

With the public, if not with the connoisseur, the crown piece struck this year to mark the Coronation has proved no less popular than its predecessor. Orders for it have reached 6m., and it is expected that, despite the difficulties of production, they will be met before the end of the year.

The work involved in producing these special commemorative coins, as well as the specimen sets, has been considerable, and has strained severely the resources of the Royal Mint. As it is, the Mint produces about 10m. coins every week. Last year, the number of coins produced was 488,750,000, the highest output for one year's single shift working in the Mint's history.

It is likely that that figure will be equalled or surpassed in 1935, while the demands of Coronation year have imposed additional burdens on the Mint's resources.

100 YEARS AGO

A hundred years ago, the Mint produced about 2m. coins a year. By 1890 the figure was 70m., by 1900 130m., and by 1920, 200m. Accompanying this great increase in output has been the development of a large overseas market for coins struck in the U.K. The foreign governments served include those of Burma, Jordan, Iraq, Costa Rica, Nicaragua and Guatemala.

Last year, in fact, over 90 per cent of the total output was for Colonial and foreign governments, and the number of coins struck for home circulation was the lowest for nearly 60 years.

The new Elizabethan coinage was first issued some 18 months after the Queen's accession. It was introduced in two ways. By the normal method, as stocks of coins in the banks declined, their fresh demands were met by issues of new coins from the Mint. At the same time, complete sets of the new coins, as well as the commemorative crown pieces, were issued to individuals on request.

Orders for the crown pieces exceed the number of Festival crowns struck in 1931 by some 4m., and the same record demand has met the issue of the special sets, which, comprising ten coins, ranging in value from 1s 6d to 10s.

Japanese Goods Are Subject Of New Trade Patterns

London, Dec. 10.

Japanese goods are the subject of a number of new triangular trade patterns that have recently appeared on the world scene. The object, from Japan's point of view, is to achieve an overall payments balance in the most profitable manner.

Japan is long of dollars and short of almost every other currency. The obvious solution is to buy needed currencies for dollars, but it is more profitable to use the dollars for merchandising US goods, as the British Treasury discovered a year ago when it liquidated its deficit with the European Payments Union by allowing UK merchants to sell dollar commodities to Europe. In that case ten days of freedom was sufficient to reverse Britain's debtor position.

There are still some markets where dollar goods will fetch a premium if they can be purchased without dollars.

Japan is offering dollar goods to Germany to settle her deficit on the Japanese-German clearing.

Newspaper, ramie, soybeans and raw hides are being offered now, and copra, copra oil cakes, and Manila hemp offered later.

An agreement between the West German and Japanese Governments permits up to 5 million of these triangular contributions to the trade balance between the two countries.

Similar offerings are reported from Stockholm, where the authorities deny official knowledge of, but are tolerating, imports of dollar goods from Japan.

But this technique, profitable though it is, has not sufficed to mop up more than a fraction of Japan's deficits on bilateral accounts, and a market has developed in "cheap yen."

EUROPEAN CREDITS

The "European" holders of credits on Japanese clearing accounts are selling them at a discount of 6 per cent to merchants who use them to acquire Japanese silk which they sell to New York. Exceptional arrivals of Japanese silk caused some weakness in the New York silk market recently.

Those who are accustomed to the vigorous efforts of the British Treasury to stamp out this kind of operation, when done in sterling goods, will be surprised to learn that triangular deals in raw silk are actually being encouraged by the Japanese Government.

An official spokesman in Tokyo has forecast that these deals will continue for some time, because surplus yen accounts held by European and other nations are not expected to be easily diminished.

SILK SHIPMENTS

There has in recent weeks been a sharp increase in silk shipments to the Netherlands, Brazil and Sweden, paralleled by a decrease in direct shipments to New York.

But Japan has yet to tackle her major currency problem which is shortage of sterling.

Trade negotiations with Britain are expected to begin early this month, and the signs are that the British Board of Trade will reject offerings of dollar goods on cheap yen, and will insist that the Japanese sterling deficit be settled by payment of dollars to the Bank of England.

—China Mail-Special.

London Exchange

New York, Dec. 10. Closing Prices

Spot 33.50n 33.55n
December 32.92 32.98-33.14
March 1934 33.17 33.20
May 33.13 33.11
July 32.86-32.91 32.41
October 32.44 32.35
December 1934 32.49 32.20
March 1935 32.55n 32.47n

—United Press.

SAO PAULO

Sao Paulo, Dec. 10. Cotton futures closings,

December 18/20 unquoted
March 1935 18.00
May 18.20
October 18.20
(In the United States the average price of 1935 mid-month cotton futures spot market was \$1.05 cent per lb. Sales at these centres totalled \$3,340,000)—United Press.

Japanese Bonds

London, Dec. 10.

Japanese bond 1931-1951 101.12 101.11
1932-1952 101.00 101.00
1933-1953 100.80 100.80
1934-1954 100.60 100.60
1935-1955 100.40 100.40
1936-1956 100.20 100.20
1937-1957 100.00 100.00
1938-1958 99.80 99.80
1939-1959 99.60 99.60
1940-1960 99.40 99.40
1941-1961 99.20 99.20
1942-1962 99.00 99.00
1943-1963 98.80 98.80
1944-1964 98.60 98.60
1945-1965 98.40 98.40
1946-1966 98.20 98.20
1947-1967 98.00 98.00
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1951-1971 97.20 97.20
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2012-2032 85.00 85.00
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2014-2034 84.60 84.60
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2016-2036 84.20 84.20
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2019-2039 83.60 83.60
2020-2040 83.40 83.40
2021-2041 83.20 83.20
2022-2042 83.00 83.00
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2079-2099 71.60 71.60
2080-2100 71.40 71.40
2081-2101 71.20 71.20
2082-2102 71.00 71.00
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2089-2109 69.60 69.60
2090-2110 69.40 69.40
2091-2111 69.20 69.20
2092-2112 69.00 69.00
2093-2113 68.80 68.80
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2133-2153 60.80 60.80
2134-2154 60.60 60.60
2135-21

JOHN CLARKE'S CASEBOOK

ON HER OWN

WHEN she had recovered from the shock of her husband's death; when the lawyers and accountants and the Inland Revenue allowed her to know at last how much money she had to live on, Florence made her great, long-term decision.

She had been, all her married life, text-book efficient as a wife. She could not have been satisfied on the harsh, endless, thankless duties the marriage contract does not specifically mention—the hours of cooking, cleaning, washing-up, the manual-labour side of married life.

When her husband died she knew exactly what she meant to do. She would live an hotel life and enjoy being waited on.

NOTHING

SHE settled in as a permanent resident in one of those quiet hotels with which London is so abundantly provided, which could be called boarding-houses, but for the common lounge and the night-porter they provide to preserve their higher status.

With her horizon squarely blocked in by the four walls of her room in such a hotel, Florence for a little while lay back and relaxed and enjoyed her freedom.

One awful day Florence realised she had nothing to do.

TO ESCAPE

FROM then, the four walls of her hotel room seemed no longer ramparts against household chores. They became more like the walls of a prison cell, and Florence found herself trying to escape from their confinement.

The other evening her lonely cell-room, hotel-room became too much for her. She slammed the door on it and left the place, meaning to go out for an hour or two until the despairing mood should leave her.

Florence went to Soho and started to drink her unhappiness away, as she hoped. She drank alone and grew more and more sorry for herself.

TURNED OUT

STILL, after so much preparation Florence could not face the thought of returning to the hateful room that was her home. She went to a late-night cafe. They turned her out from there, saying she was drunk. When she tried to go back again, the police were called. Next morning, Florence, a dishevelled woman of 61 now, pleaded guilty at Great Marlborough Street, to a charge of being drunk.

"How do you live?" the magistrate, Mr Paul Bennett, VC, asked her.

Florence ran a hand through her greying hair, and said: "Well, I've been living in hotels,

and I'm sick of it, it's getting me down."

"But what do you live on?" the magistrate asked.

TWO FRIENDS

"My husband's estate, of course," Florence said, "but it's very small now, and dwindling very quickly. Living in hotels eats into your money."

"I see the doctor was called last night," the magistrate said. "I shall discharge you absolutely, but you'll have to pay his 25s. fee."

"Oh, don't charge me that much," Florence cried. "I thought at most it would be ten shillings."

Mr Bennett gave her time to find the money, and said, seeing her distress: "Haven't you a nice friend who could cheer you up now?"

"Do we have friends?" Florence said. "I've two friends, but of course, they're abroad at this time of the year."

She began to cry, thinking of her luckier friends, who could go abroad still. "I've missed them very much, my two friends," she said. Gently she was led off, and then let go—back to the private hotel, to the cell she inhabited, to the idle, empty, lonely life.

Splendid Show By Stage Club

It is with admiration, not through intimidation, that I am happy to say The Stage Club have earned a bouquet for their latest production "The Late Edwina Black," which had its premiere last night at the China Fleet Club Theatre.

The courage in attempting such a play is, in itself, to be commended. The action depends entirely on four players; a heavy responsibility for amateur actors, but one to which the cast has met more than admirably.

Never does the action flag or impatience with the performers creep in, and the highest compliment that I can think to pay is that I forgot I was there to "review". I enjoyed myself instead, as I think all their audiences will.

The set is of a remarkably professional standard. In fact it proved a little confusing, because one was beguiled into judging from the professional viewpoint critics are so often accused of adopting. I would like to point out here that this is not so—any more than it is possible to criticise amateur societies within the same amateur status, but of varying size, finance and experience by the same critics.

The latest posting times for regular plays are generally one hour earlier than the times shown above, but the information given may be ascertained by enquiry at any post office.

Mail Notices

The latest times of posting shown below are those for registered correspondence posted at GPO, Hongkong, and for posting "elsewhere" which, in general, are earlier than the GPO times, can be ascertained by enquiry at the post office.

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11
By Air
Japan, U.S.A. & Canada, 6 p.m.
Indo-China, 6 p.m.
N. Borneo, Australia, New Zealand, 6 p.m.
Malaya, Indonesia, 6 p.m.

By Surface
N. Borneo, Australia, New Zealand, 3 p.m.
Japan, 3 p.m.
Malaya, Indonesia, 6 p.m.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12
By Air
Philippines, Guam, Hawaii, U.S.A. & Canada, 6 a.m.
Burma, India, Ceylon, Malaya, Thailand, Pakistan, Middle East, Africa, Great Britain & Europe, 9 a.m.
Malaya, 9 p.m.
Japan, 9 p.m.
Sunday, DECEMBER 13
By Air
Malaya, Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand, 6 p.m.
Malaya, 2 p.m.

Well-informed sources told that shipments of Hungarian stones worth between 2,000,000 and 3,000,000 francs had been marketed regularly in Antwerp over several months.

A diamond trader, who examined the stones said, "They are all old-fashioned jewels which presumably have been sold by former bourgeois families confiscated by the Communist Government."

He said they would probably be re-cut and fashioned into modern jewellery.

Exchequer officials declined to give the sale of the Hungarian diamonds with recent sales of Russian gold and silver in Western Europe and England.

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